



State of Wisconsin  
**Department of Health and Family Services**

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Jim Doyle, Governor  
Helene Nelson, Secretary

Stephanie Marquis, Communications Director  
(608) 266-1683

For Immediate Release

## **FLU VACCINE STILL BEING SHIPPED TO WISCONSIN**

*People can still get vaccinated in November and December*

(MADISON – November 10, 2005)—The Department of Health and Family Services says that flu vaccine for the typical flu season is still being shipped to Wisconsin. Manufacturers and distributors ship vaccine doses directly to doctors and clinics. According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), doses have already been shipped to Wisconsin and will continue to be sent to health care providers until they have received their complete order.

Some health care providers, local public health departments, tribal health clinics and mass immunizers have not received their full vaccine shipment at this point. The CDC has stated that manufacturers are continuing to ship doses and they expect the flu vaccine supply to be adequate this year.

The total flu vaccine supply for the country based on information provided to CDC by manufacturers is expected to be over 80 million doses. The CDC says the total amount of vaccine expected to be available this season is enough to meet past consumer demand, which has usually been around 70-75 million doses. Approximately 71 million doses have been distributed so far, and it is projected that 81 million to 83 million doses or more will be distributed by the end of November.

People who have been unable to get a flu vaccine should try to schedule a vaccination appointment with their health care provider for later this month or in December. This is especially important for people at high risk for influenza-related complications. While October and November are typically the months when most people get their flu shots, getting a flu vaccine in December or later can still be effective.

There have not been any confirmed cases of influenza in Wisconsin so far this year. Influenza is a contagious, respiratory disease caused by a virus, but it is different from a cold. Influenza illness ranges from very mild to severe, and in some cases, can cause life-threatening complications.

For more information about influenza, visit <http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/>.

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